

January

4 Join the Continental Army

11 a.m. | Visitor Center

Children are invited to Join the Continental Army and experience a day in the life of the continental soldier. Recruits will be mustered, or registered, by receiving enlistment papers and continental currency. Recruits will then be issued wooden (dummy) muskets and learn how to stand, march, and carry their musket as one of Washington's soldiers would have done. Park rangers dressed in continental uniform will train the recruits in a full musket drill.

Attendees are encouraged to participate in the series of four Saturday training sessions in order to advance in skills and be promoted within the ranks of the Continental Army. Topics covered will be different each month and build upon the previous sessions. Children must be at least seven years old to participate in the Continental Army program. Children who cannot participate in the full four-part series are welcome to participate on any of the four Saturdays in the Army Essentials program during which they will learn the basic drills and commands of the Continental Army. The Army Essentials program is open to children of all ages.

Please arrive by 10:45 to "muster", or sign in. No reservations necessary. In good weather activities will take place outdoors. Please dress accordingly and wear sturdy shoes. For additional program questions contact Bill Troppman, 610-783-1075.

7 Friends of Valley Forge Park Speaker Series

7 p.m. | Washington Memorial Chapel

The Friends Speaker Series gathers an array of historians, scientists, authors, archaeologists, actors and performers to share with the public their multiple points of view on history, the natural world and the ongoing commemoration of Valley Forge.

"The Story of Cliveden: Building a Memory"

David Young, executive director at Cliveden, shares the history of this important Germantown house.

This series is presented by The Friends of Valley Forge Park & Washington Memorial Heritage, in cooperation with Valley Forge National Historical Park & Washington Memorial Chapel. Sponsored by The Sherrin H. & Bruce A. Baky Foundation. For more information visit friendsofvalleyforge.org or call 610-783-1777.

11, 18 Landscapes & Structures Photography Program

8 a.m. - 10 a.m.

The Landscapes, Structures, Waterways, and Bridges program takes a photographic look at the history and beauty of Valley Forge NHP. Join a park ranger and photographer Caitlin Bellucci from the Freedom Valley YMCA, as they walk the park grounds and explore the history and the art that is Valley Forge.

Photographers of all skill levels are welcome to attend- so bring your camera, tablet, or cell phone and enjoy the park.

This event will meet at a different location each week:

January 11: National Memorial Arch (tour stop #3)

January 18: Betzwood Picnic Area

For more information contact Jeff Oates, 610-783-1009



January

20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

Sign-in begins at 8:00 a.m. | Park Theater

Make it a day on, Not a day off! Initiated by Congress in 1994, King Day of Service builds on his legacy by transforming the federal holiday honoring Dr. King into a national day of community service grounded in his teachings of nonviolence and social justice. The aim is to make the holiday a day ON, where people of all ages and backgrounds come together to improve lives, bridge social barriers, and move our nation closer to the "Beloved Community" that Dr. King envisioned. Hundreds of volunteers each year participate in this event at Valley Forge.

Volunteer sign-in and walk-up registration begins at 8:00 a.m. in the park theater. A screening of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s *I Have A Dream* speech will take place in the theater at 9:00 a.m. prior to the beginning of the work day. Walk-in registration ends at 9:30 a.m.

To volunteer, contact Jennifer McMenamin 610-783-1023 or email Jennifer_McMenamin@nps.gov

25 Landscapes & Structures Photography Program

9 a.m. - 11 a.m. | Knox Covered Bridge

*Note this program will begin an hour later than normal, at 9 a.m.

The Landscapes, Structures, Waterways, and Bridges program takes a photographic look at the history and beauty of Valley Forge NHP. Join a park ranger and photographer Caitlin Bellucci from the Freedom Valley YMCA, as they walk the park grounds and explore the history and the art that is Valley Forge. This program meets at different locations each week.

This event will meet at the **Knox Covered Bridge** at 9 a.m.

Photographers of all skill levels are welcome to attend- so bring your camera, tablet, or cell phone and enjoy the park. For more information contact Jeff Oates, 610-783-1009

February

1 Landscapes & Structures Photography Program

8 a.m. - 10 a.m. | Varnum's Quarters (tour stop #8)

The Landscapes, Structures, Waterways, and Bridges program takes a photographic look at the history and beauty of Valley Forge NHP. Join a park ranger and photographer Caitlin Bellucci from the Freedom Valley YMCA, as they walk the park grounds and explore the history and the art that is Valley Forge. This program meets at different locations each week.

This event will meet at Varnum's Quarters, tour stop #8.

Photographers of all skill levels are welcome to attend- so bring your camera, tablet, or cell phone and enjoy the park. For more information contact Jeff Oates, 610-783-1009



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"The Historical Evolution of Valley Forge"

Marc Brier, a ranger at Valley Forge National Historical Park, discusses the many and varied visions of this iconic American treasure.

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15-16 102nd Annual Boy Scouts of America Pilgrimage and Encampment

Members of the Boy Scouts of America participate in the oldest continuous scouting event in the world. The Valley Forge Pilgrimage and Encampment includes a weekend of camping, hiking, and education activities that focus on a specific theme of the American Revolution. Advanced registration is required. Contact your BSA representative or visit the BSA Cradle of Liberty Council at colbsa.org

17 Washington's Birthday Party

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Visitor Center

Did you know that the first public celebration of Washington's Birthday was at Valley Forge in 1778? Celebrate His Excellency's birthday with music, crafts, and of course, cake! Meet General and Mrs. Washington, try on 18th century clothing, and Join the Continental Army. Troops will receive a special inspection from General Washington.





March

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"An Evening with Martha Washington: General's Wife and President's Lady"

Historic interpreter Carol Spacht presents a fascinating first-person look at a first lady

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April

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"Women's Work in the Eighteenth Century"

Clarissa Dillon, an expert in eighteenth century foodways, offers a show-and-tell of the many skills and duties colonial women needed.

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National Park Week is April 19 - 27

19 National Junior Ranger Day

10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. | Begin at the Visitor Center

During National Park Week kids across the country will earn the title of Junior Ranger. At Valley Forge you can take part in hands-on activities, games, guided hikes, and more. A graduation ceremony for new Junior Rangers will conclude the day back at the Visitor Center.

27 Valley Forge Revolutionary 5-Mile Run®

Prepare. Prevail. Preserve! Register for this challenging race that winds through scenic Valley Forge National Historical Park. The 9th annual USA Track and Field sanctioned race is the only race that directly supports Valley Forge NHP, its trails and programs. The event also includes a 3-mile walk and children can participate in the 1.776 km Young Patriots Fun Run. To register, visit revolutionaryrun.org

May

6 Friends of Valley Forge Park Speaker Series

7 p.m. | Park Theater

"An Evening with George Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette"

Don't miss this discussion between General Washington and the Marquis de Lafayette, re-united once again at Valley Forge. Dean Malissa as George Washington; Ben Goldman as Lafayette.

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June

14 March Out of the Continental Army Commemoration

11 a.m. - 1 p.m. | Artillery Park

On June 19, 1778, General George Washington's Continental Army "marched out" of the Valley Forge encampment, having endured six months of challenging hardships. Yet positive changes also took place during the winter encampment, and the army was larger and more unified than before as the pursued the British Army who had evacuated Philadelphia. Each year Valley Forge NHP commemorates the departure of the army, and this year's event offers visitors a special opportunity. Participate in the soldiers' march beginning at Artillery Park and experience interpretive programs and livening history demonstrations along the historic trace road that the army used to depart their winter encampment.

Summer Lunch and Learn Series with the Friends of Valley Forge Park

Join The Friends for lunch! Each week a new guest speaker will highlight some of the park's most interesting and significant stories over the lunch hour. Bring your own brown bag lunch and lemonade will be provided.

Wednesdays from 12 p.m. - 1 p.m. | Education Center

June 11, 18, 25 July 9, 16, 23

July

4 July 4th Community Picnic in the Park

11 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Visitor Center and Muhlenberg Brigade Huts
Celebrate our nation's independence with artillery demonstrations, historical games, an All-American cookout, music, and more! Meet one of our nation's founding fathers and sign the Declaration of Independence. Learn about the meaning of the American Flag and the pivotal role the Valley Forge encampment played in securing our freedom from Great Britain.

September

2 Friends of Valley Forge Park Speaker Series

7 p.m. | Washington Memorial Chapel Speakers for the 2014-2015 season will be announced over the summer.

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October

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November

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11 Veterans Day Commemoration

11 a.m. | National Memorial Arch

Join us as we commemorate the brave men and women who have served and are serving our country.

Special interpretive programs at the Muhlenberg Brigade huts from 12PM - 3PM. Trolley Tours at 12PM and 2PM.

December

2 Friends of Valley Forge Park Speaker Series

7 p.m. | Washington Memorial Chapel Speakers for the 2014-2015 season will be announced over the summer.

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19 March In of the Continental Army Commemoration

6 p.m. - 8 p.m. | Visitor Center and Muhlenberg Brigade Huts

Experience an evening in Valley Forge and commemorate the continental army's determination to persevere during the 6-month winter encampment. Enjoy candle-lit guided walks, colonial music, and mingle with special historical guests. Portions of the event take place outdoors, please dress appropriately. Event is weather dependent, check the park website if the weather is questionable.

Holiday Trolley Tours

Hop aboard an old-fashioned trolley and enjoy a 90-minue guided tour of Valley Forge National Historical Park. Tours make extended stops at the Muhlenberg Brigade Huts and Washington's Headquarters. Departs from the front of the Visitor Center. For more information and to reserve tickets, call The Encampment Store at 610-783-1074.

Tour Dates:

October 13 November 28-30

December 26-30

Tour fees:

Adults: \$16.50

Students, seniors (62+) and active military: \$13.50

Children 11 and under: \$8.50